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TORIKAGO NO TSUGAI

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Lively Scans

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Typesetter: Murasaki

Q.C.: Annex

Please support the author by buying the original tankoubon or when it becomes available in your area.

Anticipated Volume 1 will be released on February 22th (Friday)!!

……!!
UGAWA-KUN,
DON'T……!!

.....
EH
chop...
...DRIP

tsuuu

.....

.....

O-O-O

O-

OUCHHH-

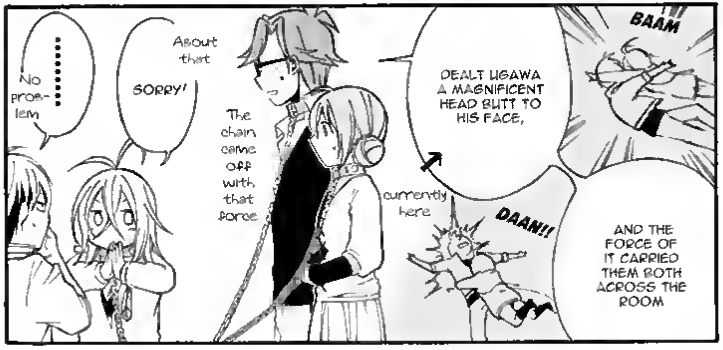
HHHHH

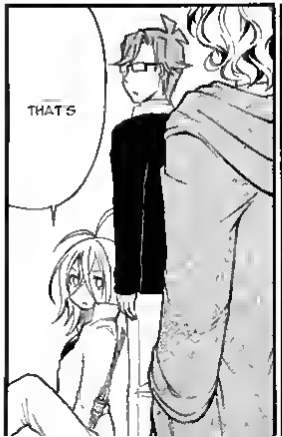
!!!!!

LILY'S SCANS

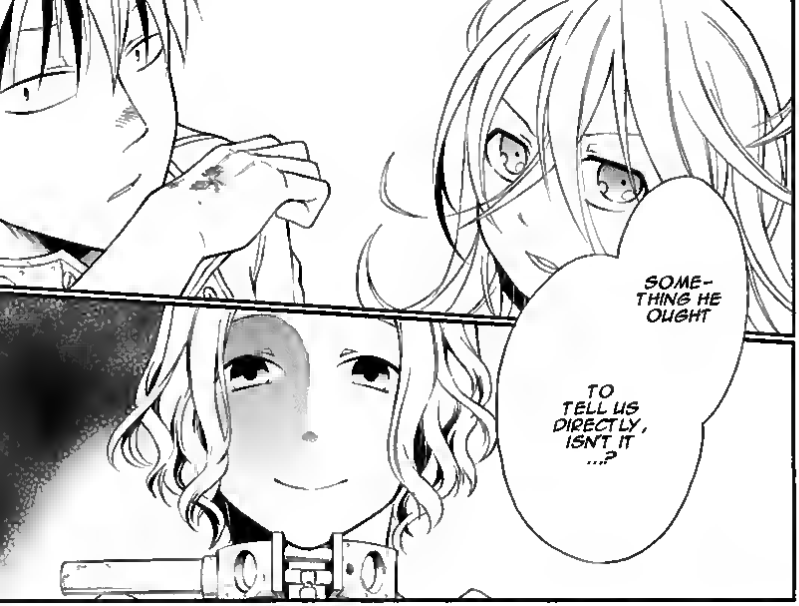
AH
SPLISH
GRAB
NGAWA-KUN DO YOU HAVE YOUR HAND!?
YOU HAVE IT!!?
YES I DO YES I DO
FWAP
HAAA
.....
THANK GOOD-NESS~~
BEEP BEEP BEEP
I DON'T KNOW I WAS JUST DESPER-ATELY...
BEEP BEEP BEEP
BEEP BEEP
CONNECTION STATUS
CONNECTION STATUS CANNOT BE CONFIRMED
YUKI-SAN...
WHAT JUST HAP-PENED?
My nose

BEEEP
Clack
YUKI-SAN
JUMPED ON UGAWA AFTER SAYING "DON'T" AND
Clack
DON'T!
UGAWA-KUN
WHOOSH


BAAM
DEALT UGAWA A MAGNIFICENT HEAD BUTT TO HIS FACE,
currently here
DAAN!!
AND THE FORCE OF IT CARRIED THEM BOTH ACROSS THE ROOM
About that
SORRY!
The chain came off with that force
No problem

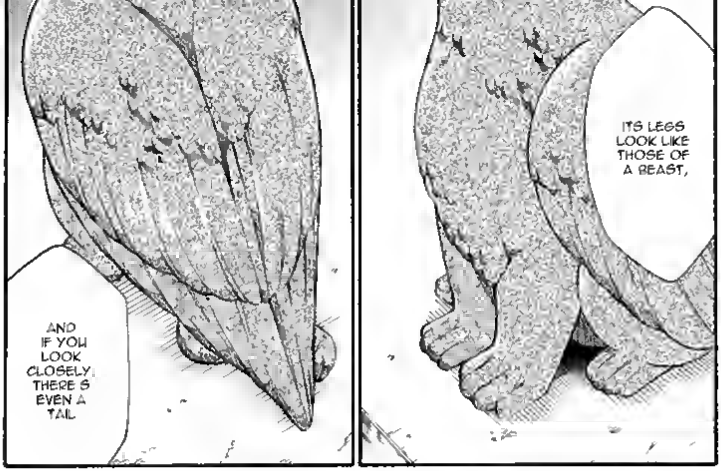

THAT'S

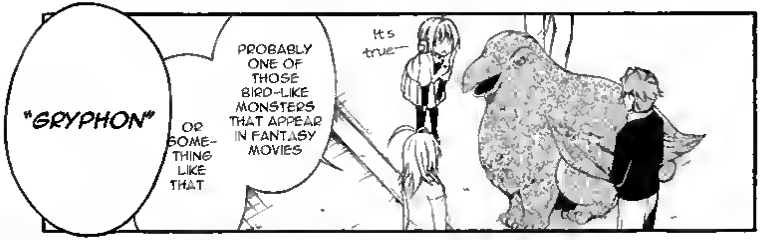
BUT WHY DID YOU STOP ME?
HZ HZ
WAS THERE A DIFFERENT, MORE SUITABLE WAY...?


SOME-
THING HE
OUGHT
TO
TELL US
DIRECTLY,
ISN'T IT
...?

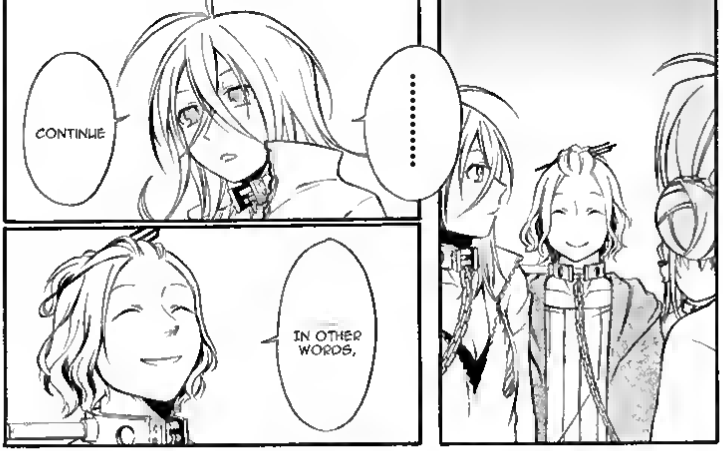
.....
EVERYTHING,
MEANING ...?
YOU
ALREADY
KNEW EV-
ERYTHING
FROM THE
BEGINNING,
DIDN'T YOU?

LIVELY SCANS
https://livelyscans.com/


AND IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY, THERE'S EVEN A TAIL
ITS LEGS LOOK LIKE THOSE OF A BEAST,


"GRYPHON"
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
PROBABLY ONE OF THOSE BIRD-LIKE MONSTERS THAT APPEAR IN FANTASY MOVIES
It's true—

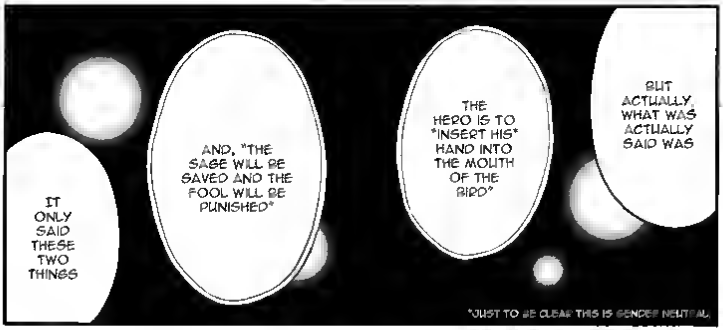
IT APPEARS IN MYTHS AND STORIES,
AND IT IS USED IN EMBLEMS AND SUCH AS WELL
IT'S A LEGENDARY CREATURE THAT HAS UPPER BODY OF A BIRD AND LOWER BODY OF A LION
OR "GRIFFIN"

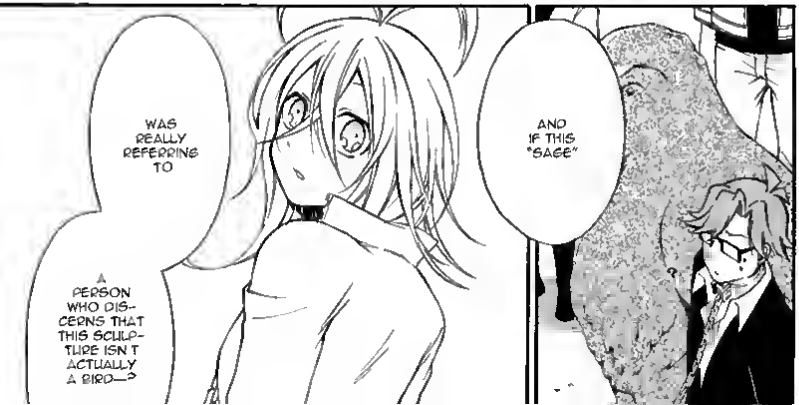

CONTINUE
.....
IN OTHER WORDS,

THAT IS TO SAY, WHAT THE VOICE MEANT BY "MOUTH OF THE BIRD"
STRICTLY SPEAKING, THIS SCULPTURE IS NOT A BIRD
WASN'T THE MOUTH OF THIS SCULPTURE

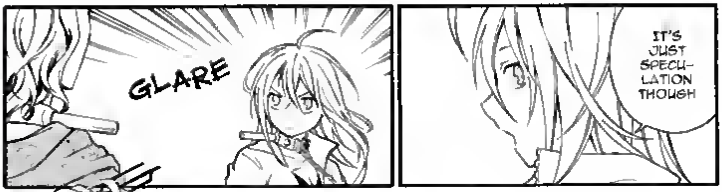
B-BUT
THERE'S A BUTTON THAT'S REQUIRED TO OPEN THE NEXT DOOR, AND
EVEN A BLADE FOR CUTTING OFF THE FOOL'S HAND...
EH!!?

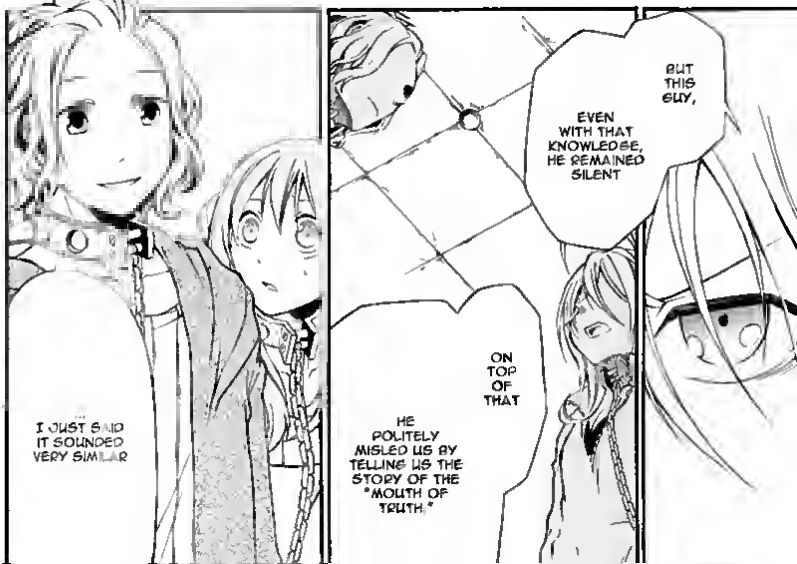
YES...
THAT WAS WHAT WE WERE LED TO BELIEVE...
THAT IN ORDER TO MOVE FORWARD, SOMEONE WOULD HAVE TO PUT HIS HAND INTO THE MOUTH OF THE SCULPTURE...
AND THAT BY PUSHING THE BUTTON WE WOULD BE JUDGED AS SAGES OR FOOLS


BUT ACTUALLY, WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SAID WAS
THE HERO IS TO *INSERT HIS* HAND INTO THE MOUTH OF THE BIRD*
AND, "THE SAGE WILL BE SAVED AND THE FOOL WILL BE PUNISHED"
IT ONLY SAID THESE TWO THINGS
*JUST TO BE CLEAR THIS IS GENDER NEUTRAL


AND IF THIS "SAGE"
WAS REALLY REFERRING TO
A PERSON WHO DISCERNS THAT THIS SCULPTURE ISN'T ACTUALLY A BIRD—?

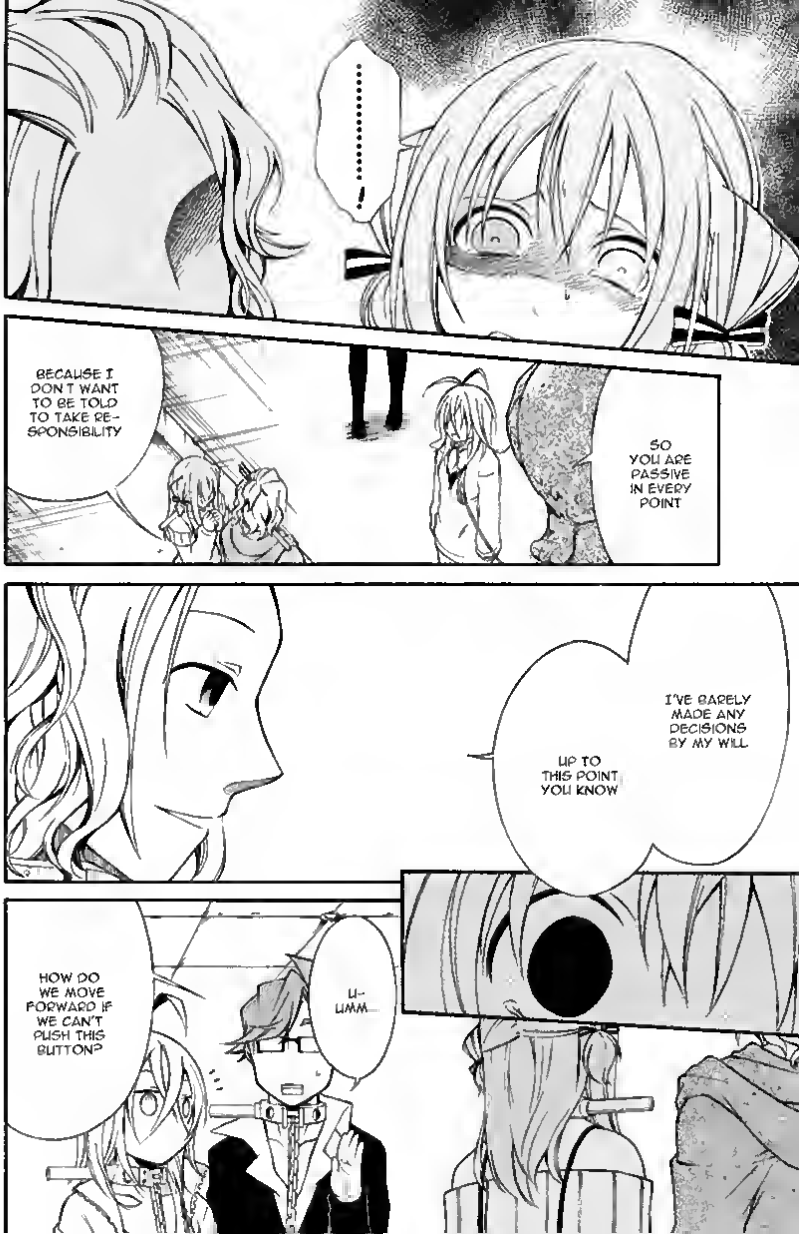
THOSE WHO PUT THEIR HAND IN WITHOUT THAT DISCERNMENT
WILL MOST CERTAINLY GET THEIR HANDS CUT OFF, WITHOUT EXCEPTION...
IN OTHER WORDS,
"THE FOOL WILL BE PUNISHED"
.....


GLARE
IT'S JUST SPECULATION THOUGH


...I JUST SAID IT SOUNDED VERY SIMILAR
HE POLITELY MISLED US BY TELLING US THE STORY OF THE "MOUTH OF TRUTH."
ON TOP OF THAT
EVEN WITH THAT KNOWLEDGE, HE REMAINED SILENT
BUT THIS GUY,

LIVEX.SCAN

.....!
W-.....
WHY, KIMI-KUN
THERE'S
THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S TRUE, RIGHT?
...I WAS NEVER ASKED
CAUSE IF YOU KNEW...
WOULDN'T YOU HAVE SAID IT?
.....!! THEY DID ASK!!
WHETHER THERE WAS ANY METHOD THAT DIDN'T INVOLVE GETTING HURT..
They were talking about "a method to push this button without getting hurt"
I couldn't think of a method for that


.....!
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE TOLD TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
SO YOU ARE PASSIVE IN EVERY POINT
I'VE RARELY MADE ANY DECISIONS BY MY WILL
UP TO THIS POINT YOU KNOW
HOW DO WE MOVE FORWARD IF WE CAN'T PUSH THIS BUTTON?
U-UMM

鳥籠ノ番
THIS ISN'T A BIRD...
EH BUT
Huh?
IF OUR ONLY CHOICE IS TO STAY HERE,
THE STATE-MENT THAT THE SAGE WILL BE SAVED" MUST BE INCOR-RECT
THE HERO MUST "INSERT HIS HAND INTO THE MOUTH OF THE BIRD"
SO IT IS
BUT ISN'T THERE ONE?
THERE'S ONE MORE IN THIS ROOM,
"BIRD"
...
NO WAY

WHEN YOU ENTER THIS ROOM, THE FIRST THING THAT CATCHES YOUR EYES IS THE BIG SCULPTURE
THIS WAS ALWAYS HERE. SO I NEVER PAID ATTENTION TO IT, BUT...
THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY A BIRD TOO
HOW IS IT?
F-OOOOOOOO
Isn't this a bit too harsh on me!?
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
MMM
!
Uuh-huh, hummhhh
Ege

BASED ON WHAT I CAN SEE, SEEMS LIKE THERE S NO BLADE
.....
!!
THERE S A BUTTON
SST—...
NOP
I'LL PUSH IT

CLICK
go...
ggg...
...zuzuz...
OH?

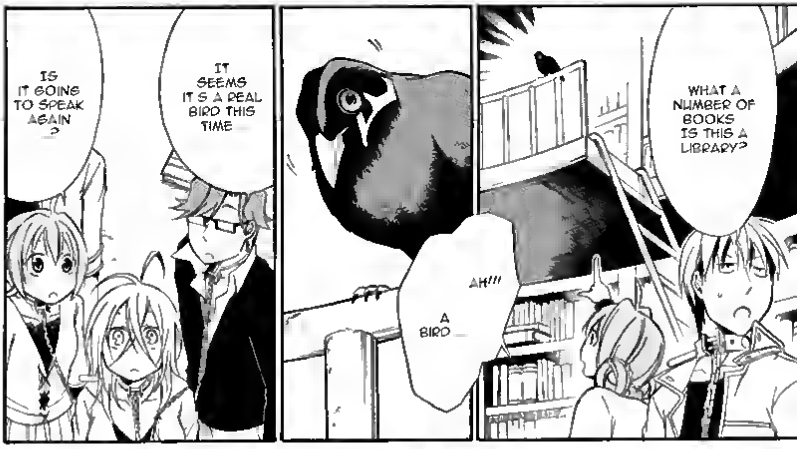
FLIP!!!
!
WAH
HEY
UWO!
DON!

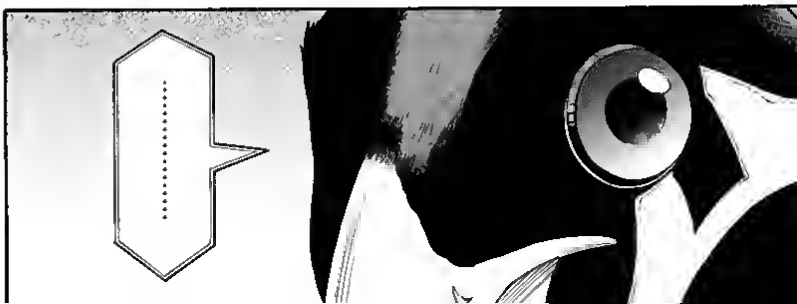
AR-
ARE YOU TWO OKAY!?
.....
UGH...
SOME-HOW
.....

BEEP
IT SEEMS LIKE
WE GOT IT RIGHT
BEEEP
KURUWA-KUN
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE MOMOZU-SAN LIKE THAT,
AND IT SEEMS YOU ARE ACTUAL-LY SMART,
SO COME WITH US
HONEST-LY,
I DON'T WANT TO GO WITH YOU ANY-MORE, BUT
MO-MOZU-SAN
UNDER-STOOD
EVEN IF HE DOESN'T DO ANY-THING,
WE'LL DEFINITELY PROTECT YOU
.....

ｽﾔ…

UWAH...
What is this

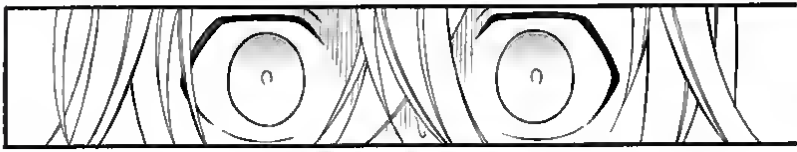

WHAT A NUMBER OF BOOKS IS THIS A LIBRARY?
AH!!!
A BIRD...
IT SEEMS IT'S A REAL BIRD THIS TIME...
IS IT GOING TO SPEAK AGAIN...?


.....

"The place where I was born
was in
the darkness"

"It was so black that it was impossible to tell if it was black,
and the edges of this world were buried by the darkness"
W-WHAT!?
"However, the darkness was warm"
THUMP
THUMP THUMP
THUMP
THIS SOMEHOW FEELS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS
LET'S AT LEAST HEAR IT UNTIL THE END!
"Suddenly, there was a sound
Something pierced me, something different than the darkness, as if stabbing me with its warmth. I lifted my head"

HUH?
IT ENDED?
.....
silent...



IT SEEMED LIKE IT WAS READING A STORY OUT LOUD,
WAS THERE ANY PART ABOUT MAKING A SELEC-TION
NO, I DIDN'T GET IT EITHER
RIGHT

YUKI-SAN, WHAT DO YOU THI...
!?
BYO
HEY... YUKI-SAN!
YOUR FACE LOOKS TERRIBLY PALE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
AH YEAH,
NO I'M FINE
HAH!
Like hitting your head?
DID GET YOU HURT SOME-WHERE WHEN YOU TRIPPED EARLIER !?

RATHER THAN THAT...
?
SO
THERE WAS... JUST SOMETHING THAT WAS ON MY MIND...
I'LL ASK IN THE BEGINNING THIS TIME
KURUWA-KUN,
RIGHT NOW, TELL US ABOUT THIS ROOM, ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING AND WHAT YOU UNDERSTAND -
JUST TELL US EVERYTHING!
LET'S SEE.
FIRST OF ALL,
.....

THERE'S A LOT OF DOORS IN THIS ROOM, SO
THIS TIME, IT SEEMS THE SELECTION WOULD INVOLVE
CHOOSING A DOOR IN ORDER TO MOVE FORWARD WOULDN'T IT
HOWEVER, THERE WASN'T ANY HINT OR CONDITION FOR CHOOSING THE DOOR
IF THAT IS SO, THEN I BELIEVE THERE'S A CLUE HIDDEN WITHIN THE BIRD'S WORDS
THE WAY THE BIRD SPEAKS IS AS IF IT'S READING A STORY
IN ADDITION, THERE ARE HUGE VOLUMES OF BOOKS IN HERE
THEREFORE—
WITHIN ALL THESE BOOKS, THERE IS A BOOK IN WHICH IS WRITTEN THE SAME WORDS SPOKEN BY THE BIRD EARLIER—
WITHIN IT, THERE'S SOME— KIND OF CLUE TO LEAD US TO WHICH DOOR TO CHOOSE

THAT'S WHAT I THINK
SMILE
SO IF SOMEBODY REALLY ASKS, YOU ACTUALLY ANSWER
ISN'T THAT WHAT I KEEP SAYING
...THEN,
IF I SAY...
KYO
TO.
"I WANT YOU TO KILL ME", AS A STRANGER,
WILL YOU DO IT?
!?
SMILE
SMILE
IF YOU DECLARE THAT YOU'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY, I WON'T HOLD BACK
BUT I DO WANT YOU TO SPECIFY THE METHOD
Since I don't want to choose it myself

BY THE WAY,
IF IT'S AS KUROIWA-KUN SAID,
THERE'S A BOOK CONTAINING THE PASSAGE THAT BIRD READ SOMEWHERE IN HERE, RIGHT?

I SEE...
Yuki-san!?
You're being a bit strange!?

NO... IT WAS A PASSAGE I'VE NEVER HEARD BEFORE
BASED ON THE STYLE, IT WOULD BE A NOVEL OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT

HAVE YOU ANY IDEA WHAT BOOK IT IS?

EH...
SEARCH THOROUGHLY...

APART FROM THIS, ALL WE CAN DO IS TO SEARCH THOROUGHLY

ALL OF...
THESE BOOKS ...!?
.....
GEEN
WOBBLE
WELL THE OTHER WAY WOULD BE TO CHOOSE THE DOOR BASED ON A HUNCH...
MY STORY IS A SPECULATION AT BEST
...BUT

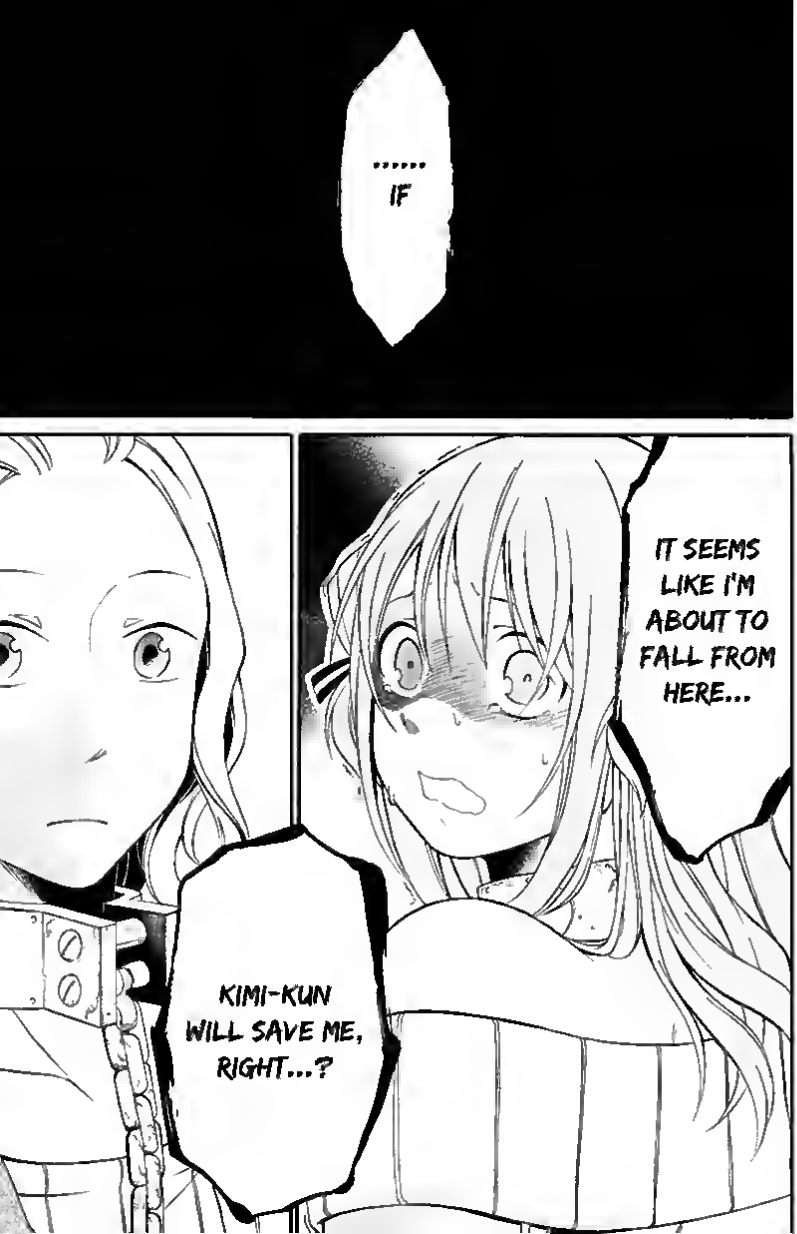
!!!
LIKE BEFORE,
WE DON'T KNOW IF THERE ARE SOME CHOICES WE CANNOT SEE
SST
STEP
STEP
AND THERE'S NO NEED TO CHOOSE BASED ON A HUNCH
...THERE'S NO NEED TO FIND IT
TAFF

RIGHT HERE
SST
—BECAUSE THAT BOOK IS
PARA
EH ...!?
WHAT THE BIRD SAID EARLIER WAS THE OPENING LINES OF THIS BOOK
"CHILD OF AN OWL" A WORK WRITTEN BY KARASUMA MISORA

IS IT A WELL-KNOWN WORK?
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME HEARING OF IT...
NO,
IT'S A VERY PLAIN AND SIMPLE STORY THAT WON'T EVEN APPEAR IN CONVERSATION
AND THIS IS THE AUTHOR'S SOLE LITERARY WORK...
SO,
DOES THAT MEAN IT JUST HAPPENED TO BE A WORK YUKI-SAN LIKES?
ISN'T THAT VERY LUCKY...!
this
...
this book is...
.....
No...

...
KIMI-KUN
...
MOMOZU-SAN...?
HA
WHAT'S WRONG?
at a place like that
.....

YOU LIKE ME, RIGHT...?
PO...
WHISPER...
KIMI-KUN
DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK ANYMORE...
...I...
ELSE'S RESPONSI-BILITY, RIGHT...!?
SOME-BODY...
IT'S NOT ABOUT
MOMOZU-SA...
BECAUSE YOU LIKE ME, RIGHT...?
WE ARE GOING OUT TO-GETHER.


.....
IF
IT SEEMS LIKE I'M ABOUT TO FALL FROM HERE...
KIMI-KUN WILL SAVE ME, RIGHT...?

!!
IT'S NOT BECAUSE SOMEBODY ORDERS YOU TO,
BUT BY TAKING YOUR OWN RESPONSI-BILITY, RIGHT!?
RIGHT ...!
KIMI-KUN—
TO BE CONTINUED!
IN CHAPTER 8

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Torikago no Tsugai

Ajin

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